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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 40 | SAGINAW, MICHIGAN | DECEMBER 1, 1972

Return from Hell

A SPECIAL PROJECT

[Introductory Note: This will be the last of our series on drug abuse, sponored by Stop the Flow of Drugs. We sincerely hope it has aroused citizens and drug users on how it can effect a person not only mentally but also physically and still come out of the hole and become a valuable citizen. At this time we would like to thank all of our supporters and welcome any questions or to comments to these series we have brought to you. Please send all questions and comments to Valley Star, P.O. Box 651, Saginaw, Michigan 48601.]

"When I first came to Project RETURN, I was a dead man. Now, I'm a married man. I feel alive," says Luis Concepcion, an ex-addict and now assistant program director of Project RETURN. "I used drugs for fourteen years, I went through all the changes that a drug addict goes through, going to jail, being in and out of hospitals . . . I came to Project RETURN program, of which I am now a director," says Don Small, director of the project's sponsorship facility.

"I myself was an addict for fifteen years; I've been off drugs now for the last seven years, and I am very proud of that alone," says Mr. Carlos Pagan, co-founder and program director of Project RETURN.

Project RETURN (Rehabilitation and Education Through Unity, and Re-enty Now) is a community -based drug treatment program in the city of New York, where drug addiction is the number on cause of death among people between 15 and 35. The Project began in 1970, and since then fifty-eight people have successfully completed treatment and are leading a normal live free of drugs. The Project has six basic stages:

At the very beginning, an addict comes into a store-front headquarters, right off the street. In phase one, Orientation, he is separated from his old life and prepared for the changes ahead. The second and longest phase is treatment, where the addict learns to deal with the social and personal problems that made him turn to drugs.

Phase three is education, where the individual, having learned to manage the present, turns toward the future, and goes to school to prepare himself. Phase four is sponsorship, in which the individual may return to the larger society on a trial basis. When he reaches a state of independence and responsibility for himself, he reaches phase five, graduation. The sixth phase can be as long or short as the graduate wishes, since this is the follow-up phase. By this stage, the graduate is usually employed or attending college and leading a rewarding, drug free life.

The idea of Project RETURN began in the minds of Carlos Pagan and Julio Martinez, two of the original members of the now-famous Phoenix House drug treatment program. Project RETURN began because these two men, though they themselves benefitted tremencously from the Phoenix House treatment, could also see changes in the addict population that created a need for a new kind of program.

Says Mr. Pagan: "Now you have a new type of addict, the 16-year-old, and the 17-year-old. And I felt in my heart that they were supposed to be treated differently (from the hard-core addict). When I was in Phoenix House, I didn't like the type of treatment they were giving the 16 and 17-year-olds. And I felt for a long time that I was going to make some changes."

So after graduating from Phoenix and spending a short time on the staff, Mr. Pagan, along with a friend, Mr. Julio Martinez, left Phoenix to begin setting up Project RETURN, which they call "a new concept".

For example, instead of the three years which both these men spent in Phoenix House, their project keeps an addict in treatment for about eight to thirteen months. They feel the project is more realistic, more tailored to the needs of the individual and a more compassionate approach.

RETURN FROM HELL - - -

Where do the addicts in Project RETURN come from? How and why do they get into treatment?

According to Mr. Don Small, director of Sponsorship House, "An awful lot of people come to Project RETURN not because they want to, but because they have court cases and they don't want to go to jail, if they're on parole and they don't want to get violated. Then you have some people who come here because they're just tired. We find that most of the older drug addicts, say age 30 and up, will come to Project RETURN on their own because they have been through the hill, sleeping in basements and on rooftops, going to jail, being raggedy, being hungry, feeling like a spy in their own country. They've been doing this for 15 or 20 years. So they come on their own, as opposed to the younger kids who still somehow feel drugs are kind of fun, because they don't really know the reality of it, because they're to young."

About the younger users, he said. "We have some kids come here who never got into hard drugs. They were just fooling around with pot, and luckly their parents got them down here so we could turn them around before they could get into anything really heavy. But they were the only thing they were doing was smoking a little pot. But it would have led into something much more serious."

Besides the hard-core heroine addict and the young pot-smoker, Project RETURN also sees the long-time LSD user. Says Mr. Small, "For instance, we had a kid here once that was using LSD, and he kept getting these crazy flashbacks. He was saying all kinds of weird things, and he was getting ready to go over the edge. So we called his parents (from Warren, Ohio) and they came and took him home and put him in a hospital to be analyzed." Project RETURN could not be of any more help to this boy because, when a person takes LSD it does something to the mind. However, the more common heroine addict has problems like loneliness, hostility, bad behavior, a don't give a damn attitude, which we can deal with very well.

Once in Orientation House, the trainee must be separated from his life of addiction. For this reason, explained the director of this facility, the trainee is stripped of his own clothes, which are often expensive and flashy, and his jewelry, and he is given a minimal amount of plain clothing such as blue jeans. This takes away from his old on-the-street image and the value he had placed on material things to keep up that image. It is the beginning of new va-

Continued on Page 2

PICTURE OF THE WEEK - - THANKSGIVING!

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The Valley Star Is Published Every Friday By
Alonza Colvin and Sons,

Subscription Rates By Mail As Follows:
$5.00 Per Year
Alonza Colvin . . . . . Editor-Publisher

Continued from Page 1

lues and new responsibilities.

Next, the trainee is told that while he is in orientation (usually one to three weeks) "Our success," he said, "is he will not be allowed any letters, phone calls, or visits, no contact with the outside world. This is because he must be forced to focus his thoughts on himself and his problems.

Once into the treatment phase, the trainee becomes involved in such things as incounter groups and seminars. The idea behind these things is to get the person to face himself, and learn new ways to deal with the problems that led him to turn to drugs in the beginning.

The director explained that once in the treatment stage, the individual usually takes two to four months to get a real understanding of himself and to begin to relate to others and to the treatment.

Asked if having both male and female trainees of all ages caused any social problems, the director said, "Even the larger society has social problems. We have males chasing females, and females chasing males. We have prejudice. We have people who have just gotten out of jail and have that "jail orientation" to overcome. We have problems that come from upbringing and from a person's old culture. But we try to get the person to see and to deal with whatever their own problem is."

Luis Concepcion, Project RETURN's assistant program director, was asked how he measured its success. I can it in myself; I'm a product of Project RETURN. And I can see it in our graduates who are gainfully employed all over the city. The graduates feel there's a home here. They can identify, they call each other and they see each other. They don't have those old friends from before, they come here and the trainees, the ropes and the pitfalls. They help the new trainees."

Concepcion himself the second graduate of Project RETURN, said he was once just like these youngsters (in the treatment house) and he says he owes a great deal to Carlos Pagan and Julio Martinez,who were doing the treatment then. He enjoys the work he does because "helping these youngsters gives me the good feelings I need to cope with the problems that everybody has every day".

The fact that Project RETURN's staff is made up wholly of ex-addicts is a vital part of the program. Another truly vital factor is that the program is totally drug-free. In answer to a question about the use of methadone, Mr. Small stated, "I don't condemn methadone . . . but I do say this; I think a drug-free community is the best way to do it, a drug-free program. I'm speaking from my own point of view, no one else's. I think to be drug-free is the best way." He also added, "Project RETURN is completely drug-free. There are no chemicals, whatsoever. No drugs, no alcohol, no nothing. The only thing we do here to help an individual get it together and go back into the larger society and make it like people do, is talk, teach, show and demonstrate. This seemingly simple formula is proving to be exactly what some drug users need in order to make it." Here are the feelings of some addicts now in treatment,in their own words:

Sheree Williams, 25 years old and originally from Texas, said that in Project RETURN she was learning to deal with problems like loneliness and anger, where before she had tried to excape them by using heroine. She explained, "All of the negative ways that I had in the street I'm learning to turn into positives here." Sheree spent eight years of her life addicted to drugs, and now says, "Project RETURN is the most wonderful thing that ever happened to me. I'm feeling better about myself. Each day that I'm here I'm learning more about myself, about other people, about how to deal with different situations, and about where people are coming from."

Asked for a word of advice for young people who considering using drugs, she said, "Drugs is an escape, and dangerous, more dangerous than you even perceive. For all the changes, the heartaches and the troubles that you'll go through, it's just not worth it."

A sixteen-year-old named Karen, from Ohio, said she used drugs for just two months, and "its not for me; it's not for anybody." During those two months, she said, "I lost respect for myself and for my mother. I didn't treasure any thing. Just getting high is the only thing you live for and that's just not it."

An older man named Leroy Fleming, a drug user for nine years, said he had recently decided to leave the treatment house, and then changed his mind. In his words, "I left three days ago, and went back to my old job. But I found there was still something missing. So I came back." Asked how it felt being back in treatment, he said, "Well, I feel a little uneasy about it, because when I left I was at a higher level in the program, and now I have to start at the bottom again. But I don't think that'll be too much of a problem."

Another young girl named Ruth explained how she got to Project RETURN, "I used drugs for five years, and heroine for three years. Then I went to jail, and I got probated into Project RETURN."

These are some of the people now in treatment at Project RETURN; they will remain there an average of four to five months. Then on the basis of a personal interview with the director of the treatment house, he will progress to the education house.

In Education house, the trainee begins where ever he is at that time. If he has completed junior high school, he will work toward completing high school, usually in the form of a GED,of high school equivalency, certificate.

Don Small continues, "After another four to five months in education, the trainee will come to the facility that I am the director of, the 34th Street facility, Sponsorship house. That's the fourth phase of the program." The project's booklet described the sponsorship period, "Sponsorship permits the trainee to move and take action on his goals. He is permitted to find a job, seek further education, of begin to rejoin his family."

Sponsorship is "a period of adjustment, a time of testing . . . the trainee is separate from the Project for all practical purposes but he may come back at any time for help". The decision to graduate an individual is made by a committee of directors and previous graduates who know him especially well.

Again from Don Small, here is the essence of the follow-up phase, which the sixth and final phase of the project. "Follow-up" means that we have on record how many graduates we have, which at this point is fifty-eight. "We don't really demand or even tell an individual to come back. But all of the graduates, not most, all of the graduates have come back from time to time, to talk. In other words, they really want us to see that they are doing just fine and they've really got something from the program. And it makes us feel good too, to know they're doing fine." The project's booklet also points out that this constant follow-up on graduates "enables us to re-evaluate our own techniques and methods and modify them accordingly".

Some of the outgrowths of this constant re-evaluation are: a professional addiction workers' group geared toward education in the drug abuse field; a group of parents of young addicts working together to help their children; a speakers' bureau,which offers to interested organizations speakers from the program who are ex-addicts; a prison program, maintaining constant contact with the courts and district attorneys and the Legal Aid Society, to give information about drug treatment to anyone who want it; a choir composed of trainees which is available for public appearance, and a monthly news letter.

Nineteen year old Angelo told of an incident that gives some idea of what the life of a drug addict can be like.

In an apartment building hallway, Angelo was surprised by two other addicts, one in front of him with a gun and the other behind him with a gun. They wanted his money or anything he had that might get them some drugs. He was shot in the back, beaten, and robbed. Luckily, he was found by a friend who took him to a hospital. But Angelo will always carry as a souvenir that bullet which, lodged against his spine, may never be removed. Angelo is now partially parolyzed and confined to a bed. And his huge, sad, dark eyes said more than any words could have about the pain and the regret of having learned too late.

After winding my way through two of the PR treatment houses, seeing the scars and feeling the icy grip of Hell, and saying good-bye to Angelo, my voice trembled and my eyes stung with tears. I could not help but think that Angelo could have been my own son, or yours. I've had my glimpse of Hell!

ZETA THANKS MR. GRAY

The Sorority acknowledge the invaluable service rendered by Mr. Franklin Gary as M.C. of the program. He has his own unique style of captivating on audience and helping his participants gain an air of confidence which helps them to project their best. Thanks Mr. Gary, for the "crowning touch".

We'd also like to thank Mrs. Ann Bryant

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Problems of Today

BY: Gwendolyn L. Collier

GWENDOLYN COLLIER

They have a place here in town, where all the mess really comes down, I won't call the name of the place but it's in the ground.

They take all these people on a hot summer night, squeeze them in a building, and expect them not to fight. I'm not saying it's all because of the place, it's a fact some people just destroy and waste.

For a place that's growing every day we need more places for our entertainment, fun and play, oh I know what you're going to say, (meaning the Blacks with money by the way) "We've thought of more clubs, and we thought of the risk, shooting, and fighting fist to fist, destroying our property and profits too, I know you know this to be true.

Well I guess I'll have to agree, but I'm non-violent, and I know there is more like me, that would love to have a night out on the town, without getting pushed, kicked, and knocked around, on these things we too frown, I'm not saying there will be know fights, or that all your customers will act right, but I'm sure we quiet few, would appreciate and welcome something new.

This is one of our problems of today, know place to go without being frightened away.

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MUSIC

BY: Irvin Griffin

Once again I sit and wait; for sleep has not yet arrived. And I tap a silent rythen to natures rage outside. One thousand hoof's upon my roof; but then I know it's rain. They gallop along the house side, and down the window pane, some one screams in the distance; its a high October wind. It rushes through the trees, and schrubs; then across the house again. But then I'm growing sleepy now, I can no longer stay alert. Maybe another time I heat the finish of nature's wind concert.

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BUENA VISTA'S CHAPTER 3 Program Director, John A. Moton (right), explains some of the materials to be used in AQUARIUS to Buena Vista School Board President, Joe T. Davis (left), and Superintendent James A. Vitany (center)

A.A. Claytor School Presents AQUARIUS

Buena Vista School District has taken another giant step to alleviate reading and math problems among its students. Students at Archer A. Claytor School will soon have an opportunity to participate in a new project known as AQUARIUS (Approach to Quality Updated Arithmetic and Reading Instruction Utilizing Self). The project is financed by funds from the Michigan Compensatory Education Act, Chapter 3. Buena Vista's Chapter 3 Program Director, John A. Moton, states the purpose of AQUARIUS is to increase the students reading and math abilities through an individualized lab approach to learning.

The materials used in AQUARIUS will supplement and reinforce what is presented in the basal reading and math tests. Each classroom will spend two or three fifty minute periods per week in the lab. Two specially trained paraprofessionals have been assigned to the lab. These paraprofessionals work in collaboration with the classroom teacher to assist the students.

The Audio Visual approach will be evident through the use of two machines, the Hoffman Viewer and the EDL Controlled Reader. With both machines, the child sees and hears a story. Questions are viewed on the screen. The child writes his responses. He later checks his responses as the correct answers are flashed on the screen.

Also included will be carrels for individualized tape lessons. These tapes begin with an attention getting situation demonstrating a specific skill. The child listens to the taped materials and gives written responses.

Claytor principal, James A. Somerfield, expects AQUARIUS will begin the last week in November.

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MARY McWRIGHT

Times are Changing Black People

The time has come now that we have more Black people running for various offices and positions than ever. This is another stop toward letting our people know that we have people in our race and communities that are capable of holding higher positions and offices of authority than we have been given credit for. Yes, times are fast changing and we must continue to update ourselves in order for us to put up with these changes.

Our paces have been to many paces behind for much too long. Let's step up a little taste. We are very proud of our people that have made these moves to progress and we sincerely hope that they will continue to hasten their paces.

We have remained at the bottom of the ladder for so long until some of us have come to think and have set in our minds that this is where we belong. So many of us have been brainwashed into thinking that if God had intended for both races were to be equal; then he would have made us equal, but this tab has been proven untrue, because if you look around you, you can see that in other races some are in the same pace with us. Some of us have been brainwashed so to the extend that we are afraid to even speak in behalf of our people. In one occassion, and an example of what I speak of is, doing the Primary's when Mrs. Chilsom was running, one of our own black brothers spoke against her, this was most stiffing and sickening. Even though she may have felt herself that she would not make it, it was a challenge for her.

The must never under estimate our leaders. For if we keep doing so we can not keep in pace with the times as they change. Many in the other race fail, but they can say they tried. We don't look to win every race we participate in, but we can say we been there. It is not a disgrace for one to lose, it should give them a double determination for the next time around.

No, we are not handing weak old porkchops, or a deer that someone has run over and left in order to get your support so that we keep in pace with times. We are tired of handouts and begging on our hands and knees, we want whats ours and the time is now for us to get it. There are people that are trying to open the door so we can get it. Let's support them!

We don't expect everybody to fall in pace, there will always be some struggles in every branch, waiting for everything to be brought to them on a silver platter. We can't wait for them to decide whether or not they want to catch up with those that are steady stepping, we must keep stepping too. We won't charge this to their ignorance but we'll say their lack of understanding . . . I will close with this peice of literature by Rudyard Kipling: If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you; If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you. But make allowance for their doubting you too; If you can wait and not be tired by waiting; Or being hated, don't look too good, nor talk too wise.

For these that can't quite comprehend the meaning, all it is saying to the people determined to reach a goal, don't give up, keep on stepping regardless of the numbers and grumbles said about.

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As the year end rolls around, the time gets shorter in which to bite back at your tax bite. To lower your tax payment, some things must be done before the end of the year.

It is not only intelligent to take steps towards reducing one's taxes, but it also has the approval of the Courts. Justice Learned Hand once said: "Anyone may so arrange his affairs that his taxes shall be as low as possible; he is not bound to choose that pattern which will best pay the Treasury; there is not even a patriotic duty to increase one's taxes." From this decision has come the well-known adage: "Tax avoidance is legal; tax evasion is not." Here are some excellent ways to avoid payment of taxes.

Do you have old clothes, books, old but usable furniture in your attic? Call an institution that accepts these for the poor, like the Goodwill Industries. Ask for a receipt for your gift. By placing a fair market value on whatever you give to such an institution, you can deduct this amount from your income taxes. The market value should be as of the day you make the gift. The value can be your own interpretation, but you must be fair about it, otherwise you may be courting a refusal or revision by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Evaluate on the high side; however, all that can happen is revision downward!

Many a taxpayer puts in time for a charitable cause. A wife acts as a Scout Den Mother, or she visits the sick as part of a plan of her religious organization. The out-of-pocket expenses involved with charitable work are deductible. Even mileage - 10 cents per mile - can be taken, if the taxpayer's car is used.

As an example of how far such charitable deductions can be taken, the IRS has even allowed plane expense in getting to skiing locations by members of the National Ski Patrol System, a non-profit, ski-safety organization. These expenses were allowed to a ski patrolman who used his own private plane each week-end for the System's work.

If your charitable organization is of the character of the Big Brothers, and you have expenses for your charges, such as the purchase of candy, or admissions to sports affairs in connection with the work of the organization, all of these are deductible.

Do you have some valuable object d'art, like a painting, or sculpture which is acceptable to some museum, university or national art gallery? You can arrange for a transfer of title for that art object to take place after your death (by suitable legal documents), and take a tax deduction now of its fair market value, while still enjoying the possession of it for the rest of your life. However, you must make the gift irrevocably, and you can take the value as a deduction only once - now.

If you have savings accounts in the joint names of your self and your children, advise the bank or savings institution that it is to report the interest as paid to your children and not to you. Interest up to $700 this year, perhaps more, next year, is non-taxable as an exemption from income. And under these circumstances, you need not even report the interest on your income tax return. The same could be true of stocks and bonds held in joint names with your children, provided that the transfer agency is advised to credit your children with the dividends or interest. However, you must make a tax return for the children involved.

Are you a professional or union man? It sometimes will be advantageous to prepay your union dues, or your professional membership dues for next year, this year. In that way, these can be deducted as legitimate personal expenses. This is especially valuable if your income with usual deductions places you just over the limits of one bracket into a higher tax bracket. In such cases, all the deductions you can take are necessary to reduce your taxable income into the lower bracket, with the concomitant saving.

TEETH RELIEF

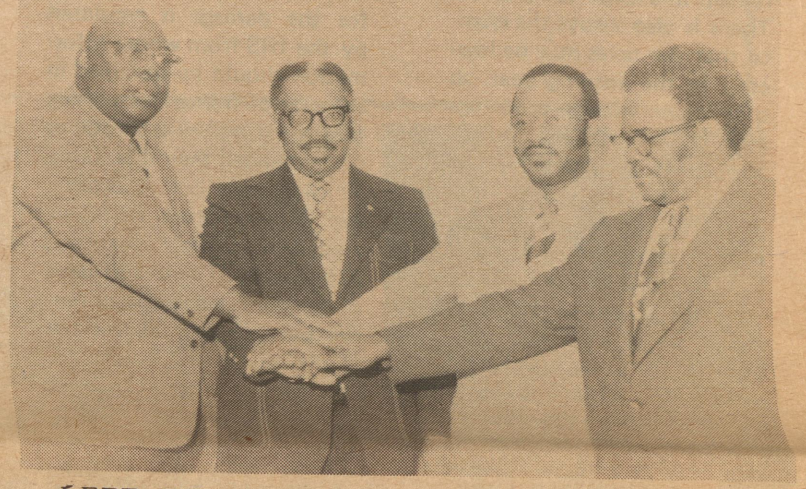
Another way to help reduce the tax bite, if your medical expenses have been such that part of them are deductible, is to add to these by having dental work done now, rather than wait until after the first of the new year. In this way, the dental expenses can be added to your medical expenses and added to your deductions. Even if the work will extend over into the next year, ask your dentist to give you a bill for the work to be done; and if it is started this year and continues into next year, and you pay the bill in advance, you can take the deduction now. However, a medical bill in anticipation of some medical treatment, which may or may not come about, could be questioned seriously by the IRS, and is to be avoided.

The same idea that applies to dental work, can be used with optical. However, if your medical expenses, including dental and optical work, will not approach the required 3% of your adjusted gross income, then it might pay you to hold off on this extra medical work until next year and add it to that year's medical expenses, since it won't help you this year. This requires that you have an accurate knowledge of what your adjusted gross income will be. The obvious tactic would be to do some tax figuring before the end of the year, rather than wait for the April payment date. For all of these tax avoidance tips assume that you know your taxes with a fair degree of accurancy.

BORROWING INCOME

While wage earners rarely can decide whether to advance or delay receipt of their income, those who are self-employed sometimes can arrange to "borrow" their income payments for the last one or two months of the year, and then repay the loan

Continued on Page 2



LEFT, REV. J.P. WILSON, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Rev. Roosevelt Austin, Zion Baptist Church, and Rev. Harold Huggins, Bethel A.M.E. Church.

Northeast Saginaw Ministerial Alliance Unites Community For Prenatal Education Program

Responding to unmet needs in Northeast Saginaw, ministers of the Northeast Saginaw Ministerial Allicance offered the leadership and inspiration to the black community and together they spearheaded funding of the Saginaw Postnatal Education Program in their Thanksgiving Severcies. Unity, strength and faith apparently was the theme of the ministers approach as well as the communities efforts.

Initially Ruben Daniels, Co-Chairman of the programs finance committee contracted four ministers: Rev. J. Paris Wilson, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Rev. Roosevelt Austin, Zion Baptist Church, Rev. Harold Huggins, Bethel A.M.E. Church and Rev. R.B. Austin, Tabernacle Baptist Church and presented the need.

These four ministers united the Northeast group and they appealed to their congregation. Their response assures the start and deprived in the inner city.

Black leaders of Saginaw came forth upon request to speak to congregation and to take offering thoughout the city.

Citizens came gave and blessed the beginning of what we hope to be a continuouse source of vital health education and genuine concern for the less fortunate in Saginaw's inner city. (There are between 3,600 and 4000 homes in the model cities area; there are 1700 families in Daniels Heights many by women, ½ have to work leaving children home.)

Directing this program is Mrs. Ann Bryant, R.N., John A. Carter, D.O., is acting Medical Advisor.

With the goal of precuenting premature, damaged and diseased infants, as well as decreasing infants mortality, area educators and instructors along with existing staff will conducted weekly classes. Healthy parents will also result.

Co-Ordinating with other agencies and services will prevent duplication and assure mother, mothers-to-be and child, of a more comprehensive approach to health care.

Continued from Page 1

within the first two months of the next year. To do this, there must be either some form of regular income payments from a company or corporation owned by the self-employed person, such as a monthly withdrawal of a specified amount, or the "pay check" must be of the monthly (or some divivision thereof) variety. Self-employed persons very often incorporate their businesses, or create a company for the purpose.

Now, if their yearly income up to, say, November, has been high, they can execute a promissory note, or make a suitable entry in the firm's accounting books, "borrowing" the pay for the months of November and December. Repayment must be made on or before February first of the ensuing year, and adds to the income of that year. The amount "borrowed" need not be included in the income for this year. Sometimes this action will enable a taxpayer to remain in a lower tax bracket. There is also always the chance that the taxes may be lowered in the ensuing year, so that there will be a savings even though the income will have been increased by the two month's repayment.

If the income from your securities and mutual funds is high, it might pay you to have the shares registered in the name of a "custodian" - yourself, or some member of the family - while the shares are transferred to the children under the Gifts to Minors Act. In this way, you can retain some control, but the earnings are taxed to the child who will be in a much lower tax bracket than you. This can accomplish a very good tax saving. Some states provide for this same type of custodial action with regard to savings accounts. If this plan seems feasible, consult any good stockbroker or your local savings bank for details.

If you have been in the habit of donating substantially to some favorite charity, consider donating long term appreciated securities instead of cash. You will save in two ways: there is no tax on you for the appreciation (increase in value), and you can take a deduction of the full value of the securities as of the day you transferred them to the charity. This must be done, of course, before the year's end.

If you have several "capital gains" which will be taxed against you, try to avoid taking them all in the same year. You may even find yourself subject to the 10% minimum tax on preference. Spread these capital gains out so that only a part are taxable this year.

If you have been in the habit of putting away a certain amount of your pay into savings, and you have children, buy U.S. Government E bonds in the children's names or one of them, rather than in yours. In order to make even more of a saving, be sure to file a return for the child, or children, showing the purchase of the E bonds and declaring the annual interest as income to them. This will avoid having to declare the interest in one lump sum at the time of redemption when the tax bite would be higher. It will also serve to establish for the information of the IRS that you have elected to declare the interest annually, a requirement if you are not going to declare it at redemption time.

Finally, if you have been unfortunate enough to have been located in a disaster area such as in the path of hurricane Agnes, obtain a copy of the newspaper or magazine (Time or Newsweek, etc.) which mentions that the President has declared your location a "disaster area." This "proof" is helpful, if the disaster happens prior to the end of the year, in claiming deductions for any damage you may have suffered. Even though the IRS has access to any official Presidential Proclamation, it is far easier to have simple proof at hand and avoid having to be delayed until the official proclamation is verified. The deduction for the damage is regulated by the IRS from whom information should be obtained in advance of filling in your tax return. If repairs are made or contemplated they should have been paid before December 31st in order to be included in this year's return as a deduction. The loss in value of the damaged property need not be figured until the date of the return, and is normally part of any regular income tax return.

CONCLUSION

It should be clear that now is the time for a hard look at the numerous possibilities for lowering your taxes. By doing a little calculating before year's end you may be able to save yourself a tidy penny when the tax bite arrives.

Opening of Big Brothers New Office

Big Brothers of Saginaw is happy to announce the opening of a branch office at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 720 Tuscola. The branch office will be manned by Mr. Lucky Baber, a caseworker for Big Brothers, and will also be staffed by a part-time case side and secretary. The main purpose of the office is to decentralize and provide better and more direct service to the black community.

It is hoped that Big Brothers, in taking this step, will be better able to relate to the needs of the black community and to be more responsive to them.

A recruitment committee, headed by Mr. Baber and made up of Big Brothers and board members, is making special efforts to involve more minority group men as Big Brothers. They will be meeting regularly to review the agency's efforts in minority group recruitment and to suggest improvements.

Office hours for the branch office will be 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The phone number is 755-6533. If there is no answer, the alternate number is 755-6558.

Wanted: Volunteer's Mothers and Non-Mothers That Care

Won't you give a few hours of your spare time to show them that we still want the very best for them. To some that didn't know, the teachers would love to have the mothers to come to visit Saginaw High School.

In the attendance office they greet you with a warm smile. Mr. Nuckolls, the principal, is very much concerned also. He is concerned enough to listen to what you are bringing him. Any idea that he thinks will help toward our young people growing up into grown women and men that we can be proud of.

What we really need is brain power!!!

I spend one morning at Saginaw High and sat in one of the classes and was very impressed and proud to be able to sit and observe how hard they can work.

So won't you call Mr. Nuckolls at 752-8144 or 752-8083, or Mrs. Hall or Mr. James Madison and let us know if you care enough to volunteer a little of your spare time.

I am a volunteer and I feel good within myself when I help someone and they give you a smile and say "Thank You", There is a great reward in giving. Saginaw High has a phrase - "Are Trojans getting it together?" Volunteers can we say, "We are getting it together?"

Don't Let This Happen In Saginaw

An eight year old child was playing at the fourth floor window of a tenement building in New York. Quite suddenly, he lost his balance and fell fifty feet. Dizzy, but unharmed, the child got up and walked away. A modern day fantasy? No! Unlike the fall of Alice through the rabbit's hole, this child was spared by the reality of an urban ghetto - a pile of garbage fourteen feet high.

The event took place in a area of the Southeast Bronx known as "Little Calcutta." The name is appropriate. In the span of only twenty years, the neighborhood changed from a middle-class Jewish one to predominanty one of or no income Puerto Ricans and Blacks. Of this present population 75% on welfare, 67% are children, and 80% are substance abusers: paper, the majority alcholics and narotic addicts. For purpose of this paper, we define substance abuse as a condition in which the individual is both non-functioning and non-productive because of the abuse. If you also consider that 50% of the population are transients who spend no more than one year in the community and its schools, you have a clean picture of a population undergoing constant change.

THE WINNER - -

Pie Contest

Georgia Pendelton, a active member of the "Club Petites" is the winner of the pie selling contest to help her club buy blouses for the remaining members of the club. The sale was a success with the help of Mrs. Collier, who did all the baking and the delivering. Georgia and her mother sold and delivered forty-one pies.

Cheryl was the second place winner. She sold thirty-seven. They are both pupils of Heavenrich School. Cheryl Collier is a third grader and Georgia is in the fifth grade.

Thanks to all the nice people who helped make this sale a success.

RUNNER-UP - -

A Happy Day

Mothers of pre-schoolers can learn about "Ingredients for a Happy Day" at the YWCA on Tuesday, December 5, at 9:30 a.m. Mrs. Pixie Sharp will demonstrate art experiences for little children, using materials and things found in the home. Children grow and express feelings through creative expression and mothers can guide them in "doing their own thing." This is the last in the series of Child Development programs.

The public is invited. There is no charge for YWCA members; others are charged 50 cents. Mrs. David P. Riedel is in charge of arrangements.

SAGINAW SENIOR CITIZEN'S COUNCIL, INC.

1407 JANES STREET (Multi-purpose Center) FRONT

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48601

PHONE 754-1463

Senior Citizen's Inc. wish to announce the opening of a drop-in center for all senior citizens in the community.

We are a non-profit organization DEDICATED to help all senior citizens in their struggle for a better way of life.

We are a project of Model Cities.

Some of the activities going on at the center are as follows:

RECREATION ROOM	(Free coffee and pastries, TV and card games) Monday thru Friday 9-5
HOT MEAL PROGRAM	(Luncheon served from 11:30-1:30) Monday thru Friday (Seniors eat for $.75)
COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SERVICES	
VOLUNTEER SERVICES	(We need volunteers. Reimbursement for mileage) Contact Bob Martin 754-1463
SEWING CLASSES	(Instructions, Free) Monday - 10 to 12 Wednesday - 1:30 to 3:30 Thursday - 10 to 12

If you have a problem (any kind) please do not hesitate to call.

We wish to make this project a necessary and vital function of the senior citizen population in Saginaw. In order to do this we must have the understanding, cooperation and concern of EVERY citizen.

There must be senior citizen participation to make the drop-in center a success. Many people have worked very hard to bring this project to the elderly population of the model neighborhood. So come on by, bring your friends to chat a little bit.

The name of the game is "Involvement". Let's get involved, I am.

Thank You

Senior Citizens Inc.

MODEL CITY

SCHEDULE OF PERMANENT MEETINGS

Effective November 10, 1972

NAME OF MEETING	DAY	TIME	ROOM	NAME OF CONTACT PERSON
EDUCATION	MONDAY	4:30-6:00	ALL PURPOSE	JOHN RODRIQUEZ
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	TUESDAY	2:30-3:30	ALL PURPOSE	PAM SIMMONS
PUBLIC SAFETY	" "	4:00-5:30	ALL PURPOSE	MARGARET COLEMAN
YOUTH COUNCIL	" "	5:30-7:00	ALL PURPOSE	THELMA RICHARDSON
ADDICTS ACTION COALITION	" "	6:00-7:30	ALL PURPOSE	WILLIAM WILDER
MANPOWER	WEDNESDAY	2:00-3:00	O.I.C.	ROSETTA HARRELL
SENIOR CITIZENS	" "(2nd&4th)	4:00-5:00	ALL PURPOSE	MARGARET COLEMAN
SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL	" "(3rd)	4:00-5:00	ALL PURPOSE	ROBERT MARTIN
HEALTH & DRUG ABUSE	" "	5:30-7:30	ALL PURPOSE	CLARA BOLES
EDUCATION	THURSDAY	11:30-2:00	ALL PURPOSE	JOHN RODRIQUEZ
EVALUATION	" "	1:30-	C.D.A.	THELMA RICHARDSON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	" "	2:00-3:00	ALL PURPOSE	JOHN RODRIQUEZ
POLICY BOARD	" "(2nd&4th)	7:00-	HOUGHTON	ROSETTA HARRELL
M.P.C. BOARD	" "(1st)	7:00-9:00	ALL PURPOSE	JOYCE BROWN
SOCIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE	FRIDAY	1:30-3:00	ALL PURPOSE	CLARA BOLES

ROOM LOCATIONS

ALL PURPOSE--1407 Janes, Multi-Purpose Center Phone 754-1463

C.D.A.--503 Nth Jefferson, Model Cities Phone 755-2142

O.I.C.--1000 Tuscola St, Opportunity Industrial Center Phone 752-4158

HOUGHTON--Houghton Resource Center, 1608 Johnson St

N.Y.C. Banquet

BY: Dawn Beckwith

On the 16th of November 1972, the N.Y.C. out of school program gave its third annual banquet at First Ward Community Center.

For our readers who don't know what N.Y.C. means I'll explain, it stands for Neighborhood Youth Corps and it deal's with drop-outs, ages 16 to 17 and what it does basically is to take a drop-out, place he or she on a job and let them learn about work and work habits so when he or she goes out into the work world he will be expected of him and what he can expect from an employer.

The banquet began at 7pm with Mr. Robert Viere giving grace for a meal that consisted of potatoe salad, ham, punch and cake, all which was prepared by the N.Y.C. enrollers. After filling our stomachs with all the good food, Mr. Bruce Mosley, counselor of the N.Y.C. program, gave a short talk about the program saying it was a worthwhile one and if he, as a counselor, was able to reach one person than the job was being done effectively. Bruce went on to say that at the present N.Y.C. has a total of 40 enrollees working on jobs and 10 of those attend night school. But the sad thing is that a waiting list of 150 names is building up with no end in sight.

After Mr. Mosley's talk he presented awards to some out standing enrollees, they were: Catherine Durr, Yolanda Laudin, Theresa Romero, Ronnie Brown, Dave Hernanze and Edwing Hardy. Miss Hardy won the outstanding enrollee of the year award, which was presented to her by city manager Pottoff. Edwing is presently working as a key-punch operator at the Driver's License Bureau and will attend Delta College in January.

A modeling show followed and what a show, the ladies were beautiful. At last the best part of the program. The enrollees presented a "This is Your Life, Mrs. Austin", who is the director of the program and has been for seven years. Mrs. Austin did not know about the program, so you can imagine how she reacted when her mother walk onto the stage . . . by the way her mother lives in Louisiana. Barbra Lenoir was mistress of ceremony and I think she is better than Ralph Edwards. It was a lovely program and I'm sure that these enrollees of the N. Y.C. program will make it big in a world full of promises.

LEFT, MR. AUSTIN, MRS. AUSTIN, MOTHER & MRS. AUSTIN PRESENT MR. MOSLEY, MRS. BIREN NYC COUNCILER PICTURE.

This is Your Life

MR. MOSLEY PRESENTS AWARD TO NYC TRAINEE.

NYC BANQUET - MRS. AUSTIN WHAT A SURPRISE!

Needed: Evaluation Committee Citizens

To all interested citizens of the Model Neighborhood. The Evaluation Committee, of the Model Cities program, is now receiving citizens for the evaluation committee. The responsibilities of the committe is to evaluate all programs that is funded by Model Cities.

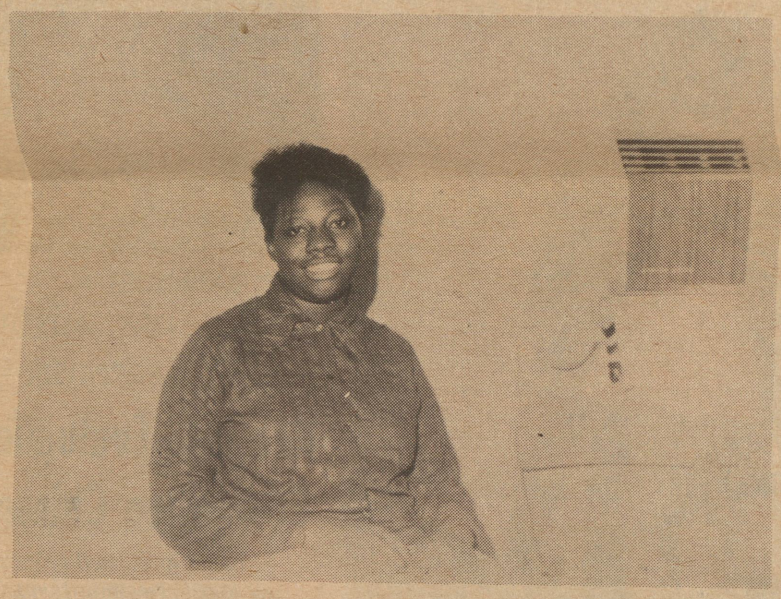
If there are any interested citizens, please contact Mrs. Thelma Richardson, 1407 Janes Avenue. Phone: 754-1463, Ext. 64.

MISS EDWING HARDY OUTSTANDING ENROLLEE

People Speak

Miss Carolyn Burt, 1827 Farwell Street, is a teacher's aid at First Ward Community Center in the pre-school program at the age of 19 years. She has been reading all the editions of the Valley Star and thinks it is a nice black paper. She would like to see the residents in the Model Cities area improve to be more together, this is one of the main problems today.

Stricter Law Inforcement



Mrs. Mary Little of 1316 N. 9th, age 17, said she read Valley Star and Model Cities every week that it comes out. Mary is a teacher's aid at the First Ward Community Center and she is working with the pre-school program. She likes to read and tell story to the children and feels that there is no such thing as a bad kid. She also said that the bad kid just needs a little bit more love. Mary commented on what she would like to see in Saginaw. She feels that there should be more activities for young people to get involved in. Mary also stated her idea for Model Cities in Saginaw is a major social change and a strick and better law enforcement. The Valley Star report asked Mary what was her opinion of the Valley Star newspaper. She thinks it is important to the community.

GROUND-BREAKING - - MAYOR WENDLER TAKES HIS TURN WITH SHOVEL!

New Saginaw Area Bus Center

Mr. W.P. Himburg, President of INDIAN TRAILS, INC. is pleased to announce the start of construction of the new Saginaw Area Bus Center, 505 Johnson Street, in the Central Business District of Saginaw. This location was secured from the City of Saginaw through the Department of Community Development, H.G. Sheltraw, Director. The Center site occupies over two-hundred thirty (230) feet of frontage on Johnson Street between North Warren and North Jefferson Streets, across from the New Civic Center and stretches the entire block. It will replace the present facilities located on North Baum Street, which will become part of the City of Saginaw's Redevelopment Area.

PRESTON D. WILEY

"THE FUTURE OF SAGINAW MODEL CITIES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT"

In contemplating this weeks column for the Model City news, I observed an empty hearse pass a young model neighborhood boy walking down Jefferson Street, near Brown's Mortuary and the Central CDA offices.

It was an incident with no apparent meaning except it reflected a past and a future, neither one knowing where the other is going.

But Saginaw's Model Neighborhood area is this way. It's like the song Marvin Gaye sings . . . "Makes You Wanna Holler and Throw Up Both Your Hands!"

As we attempted to point out in last editions post election piece, information is the raw material for ideas, and whatever you can't control can be used against you.

What is to the point at the moment, is that in a 1971 message to the congress, president Nixon called for the enactment of general and special revenue sharing, legislation which would transfer the decision making responsibility in solving critical urban, problems from federal to local officials.

In that message the President said:

One of the most important existing stepping stones to revenue sharing is the Model Cities program which was designed to provide a local community with flexible funding and sufficient freedom so that it can coordinate a wide variety of development programs in a given target area. Ideally, it emobdies - on a limited basis - the principles we are trying to extend to all development did through community development revenue sharing.

The Model Cities program has been a valuable demonstration of the need for "Urban Doctors" who are generalists - who understand the critical relationships between housing and health, between education and employment, between cultural opportunities and the income needed to enjoy them. We have accepted for a long time the relationship between a heart specialist and a general practitioner who knows when the the specialist is needed. We have not recognized this same relationship between the housing specialist and the generalist who diagnoses the city's needs in relation to its resources and knows how much housing is required. In varying degrees 147 communities across the country have begun to recognize the value of such an approach. They have also come to understand some of the problems inherent in it.

Now that community development revenue sharing is a reality, the real test of the value of the Model Cities demonstration is at hand. If the mayor, the city council and city manager come to fully recognize the value of the process of this thing we call Model Cities, then the over-all community development aspect of the City of Saginaw will be strengthened. If the staff of the C.D.A. and the Model Cities policy board recognize the need to grow and become a part of a larger community process, the whole community will benefit from the learning of the Model Cities years.

The future of Model Cities will clearly be determined by by its relevance to a broader community development process.

New Talent Discovered

BY: Charlene Colvin

Chicano Week is one of the fine new activities that is becoming part of our community. And besides promoting better understanding of the Chicano culture, and increased awareness of their heritage in Chicano young people, this year Chicano Week has resulted in the discovery of a new artistic talent by some of the teachers at Ricker Junior High.

Fifteen-year-old Peter Rios, Jr., the son of Mrs. Ophelia Rios of 3128 Fairview, had never thought of himself as an artist during the years he attended Holy Rosary School. He paid attention to his school work, played basketball, and spent time with the many friends he had there, and art was not one of the things he thought about.

When Peter's family moved, and he had to leave Holy Rosary, he wasn't sure he was going to like Ricker Junior High. When he arrived he knew only one person, the boy whom he still considers his best friend, Chester Virginsky. Then he met Ricker's principal, Mr. Johnson, whom he describes as, "a real nice man." And with the help of Chester and Mr. Johnson, Peter began to make a lot of new friends.

Mr. Johnson also helped Peter set up his class schedule. Given his choice between art and music, Peter decided on art, for no real reason except that the idea appealed to him.

As Peter got settled into his classes, English, wood shop, math, and others, the time came to start getting things ready for Chicano Week. Since back at Holy Rosary School, celebration of Chicano Week was mostly talk, Peter was now surprised to see everyone getting involved, displays being set up, people bringing things into the school to show, newspaper announcements, and a lot of excitment all around.

He was even more surprised when, one day in the library, the librarian asked him if he would like to do a project for Chicano Week. It seemed that Mr. Martinez, one of the teachers in charge of the Chicano Week activities, had found a very good drawing of a Mexican soldier, and wanted somebody to do quite a large one like it for a display. He had asked two boys to do the drawing, but at the last minute they didn't turn up. And so, seeing that Peter had nothing better to do in the library than talk to his friends the librarian asked him to do the project.

So Peter took the magazine picture, some heavy white paper, and some black marking pens, and at last produced his first work, a remarkable portrait which was soon framed and put on display for Chicano Week.

So out of all these unrelated events - the change to a new school, the impulsive decision to take art instead of music, the drawing project to be done and no one to do it, the librarian's feeling that Peter needed something to keep him busy - out of this came the discovery that Peter had a gift for art.

PETER TALKING ABOUT HIS PAINTING WITH MOTHER.

I AM PROUD OF MY SON'S TALENT SAYS MRS. RIOS

Where does Peter go from here? The first step is that he is continueing in art class, where he is learning the basic skills, such as different kinds of lettering, and also special things, like the three-dimensional twenty-pointed star the class is making out of straws.

What about art as a career? Peter says that's one of the things he's thinking about doing. Right now he has many other interests besides art, like other interests besides art, like basketball, fishing, and hunting.

Peter's family is clearly proud of him. His mother, Mrs. Ophelia Rios, said she is not only proud of Peter, but quite as surprised as he is about his artistic talent. But she said she has always been proud of him as a good student and a good and helpful son. Peter also has two married sisters, Rose and Gloria, and a brother, David, who is ten. Asked what he thought about his older brother's success, David said, "I like the drawing that he did." Though five years younger, David like to do the things his brother does, and is now busy trying to show that artistic talent runs in the family.

There is too much young talent around us that is unused and undiscovered by busy or uninterested parents or teachers, and there is a lot being done to change this. But the most important thing to remember about the discovery of Peter's talent is this: even after all of the unrelated happenings led up to Peter's opportunity to do the drawing, nothing would have come of it if Peter had not said, "OK, I'll try it," and then sat down and actually done the work. He would never have known what he could do if he had not made the effort.

So Peter, keep up that good work, and we hope that by telling your story to the Valley Star, you have helped some other young person to find their own special gift, as you have found yours.

MEDIDAS CONTRA LOS GUERRILLEROS EN COLOMBIA

BOGOTA, 20 de enero (UPI). El gobierno emprendió una gran contraofensiva para frenar la acción de las guerrillas que se han hecho fuertes en una vasta región del país, tras efectuar nueve espectaculares asaltos a otras tantas poblaciones.

La acción de los insurgentes, que en las últimas dos semanas ha dejado un saldo de 12 muertos, 18 heridos, cinco civiles secuestrados y robos por valor estimado en casi 10.000,000 de pesos (500,000 dólares), obligó a las fuerzas armadas regulares a ejecutar un plan especial de seguridad en virtud del cual se ha triplicado el número de efectivos militares en la vasta región afectada, que incluye zonas del centro, noreste y noroeste del territorio nacional.

El cerco a los guerrilleros parece sumamente difícil si se tiene en cuenta que la región en que operan cubriría una superficie superior a los 50,000 kilómetros cuadrados, abarcando los departamentos de Antioquía, Santander, Bolívar, Córdova y Boyacá, que totalizan una población de 7.000,000 de habitantes.

Dejando a un lado sus diferencias ideológicas, el autodenominado Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN), Ejército Popular de Liberación (EPL), y las llamadas Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC), han unido sus efectivos, estimados en 500 hombres, para realizar una ofensiva general que, a juicio del gobierno, constituye sólo "los últimos estertores de las guerrillas".

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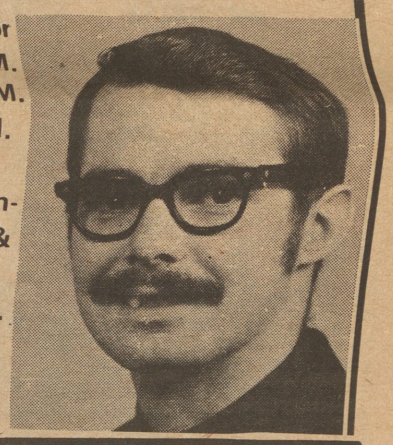

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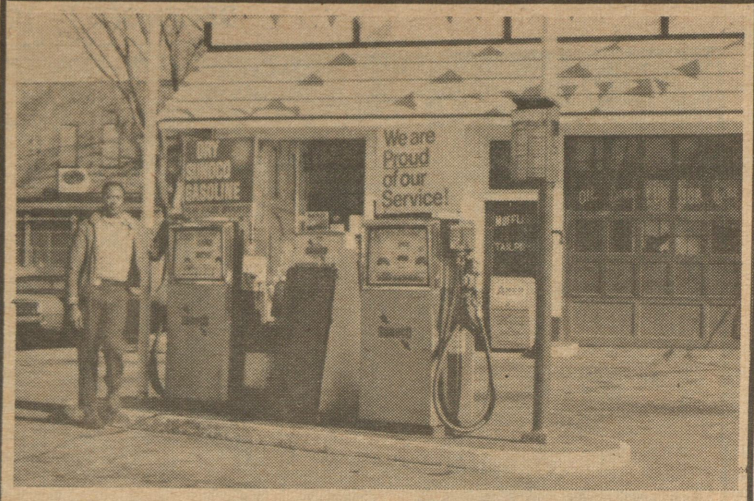

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Zetas Present The Fourth Debutante Ball

Thirteen beautiful young ladies made their bow to Saginaw society as the Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. presented it's Fourth Annual Debutante Ball last Saturday evening, November 25, 1972.

The high point of the evening came when Miss Kathryn Jackson was named "Debutante of the year", a title which brings with it a $2,000 scholarship. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Jackson, Kathryn is a nursing student at Michigan State University.

The thirteen young ladies making their debuts, besides Miss Jackson, were: Brenda Allen, Alicia Doster, Lovetta Riley, Shirley Lawrance, Angel Latimer, Joycelyn Phillips, Vanita Little, Deborah Houston, Dona Austin, Susan Carr, Gwenolyn Rouse, and Rosemary Robinson.

The Debutantes were officially welcomed by Councilman Thomas James, standing in for Major Paul Wendler, and the girls then joined in a promenade to music written in their honor by Mr. Riley Dennett.

Acting as master of ceremonies was Saginaw's own Mr. Franklin M. Gary, who added much to the occasion by quoting, in True Gary style, both prose and poetry on the subject of beauty and the role of women in modern society.

The officers of the Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter were also introduced. They are: Mrs. Loubertha Little, president; Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, first vice-president; Mrs. Rose Winchester, second vice-president; Mrs. Audrey Archer, third vice-president; Mrs. Freddie Murphy, secretary; Mrs. Mary Jackson, treasurer; Mrs. Verlyn Campbell, financial secretary; Mrs. Vezelia Phillips, parlimentarian; Mrs. Charlena Schenk, public relations; Ann Girger, social amenities; Jeffrey Slaughter, corresponding secretary; Miss Yvonne Veal, chairman of the executive board; and Mrs. Ann Roberts, immediate past president.

In addition to the schorship given to the "Debutante of the Year", several other awards were made. Miss Alicia Doster recieved a $50 savings bond for her work in fund-raising. Zeta member Glenda Richardson was given special recoginition for her efforts toward preparing the Debutante Ball. An award was also presented to Miss Carlean Gill, for her outstanding contribution to the work of the Zeta throughout the year. These awards were presented by the Debutante Ball chairman, Miss Yvonne Veal.

Then with the music of the Debutantes' theme song, "We've only Just Begun" echoing through the Civic Center banquet room, Zeta president Mrs. Louberta Little closed the program with thanks to all and a reminder that the work of the Zeta Phi Beta So-

DEBUTANTE BALL - MISS KATHRYN JACKSON

DEBUTANTE BALL - WALTZ WITH ESCORTS

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Trying to Get Over

BY: Jim Colvin

Such blessings as a good job, a home, a family, a car, maybe a little savings for a rainy day - these things, though they do not make our lives a paradise, do tend to make us forget that for many people things are just not that simple.

And for some people, right and wrong cannot be a matter of some noble pronouncements falling out of the sky; it has to be a matter of the practical principles of what it takes to get by in this world.

A prime example of these principles is a young woman named Trudy (not her real name). Trudy is a frequent visitor to the Valley Star office, and the staff has gotten to know her. Last week, your editor took an opportunity to talk with her about herself, her work, and her future.

Trudy is, for now, a working prostitute, and she is eighteen years old. The most important part of Trudy's life is her baby daughter, who is ten months old; and her future goals center around making her little girl's life a happy one, like every mother.

Right now, Trudy is hoping to leave her present work and start working in one of the plants, as soon as possible. Then she wants to move into an apartment of her own (she now lives with her parents). When her little girl is old enough, she wants to start her in nursery school, then send her through school, and on to college when the time comes. She also plans, if she starts working in the plant soon, to go back to school herself, since she was unable to finish high school.

Trudy described her own childhood with a smile. Among her two sisters and two brothers, she was the tomboy, "fightin", climbing trees, running to Mama for anything.

She became more serious as she talked about the work she is doing now: "It really is not working, it's trying to get over. It's the only way you're going to survive, by getting over. And the way I'm doing it, people say it's wrong to do what I'm doing, but it's really not. It's trying, it's your way to survive. This is what I know, I know the streets. The way I was raised this is what I know, the streets."

We asked Trudy about the stealing and violence that is starting to happen quite often in her line of work, and how she felt about it all.

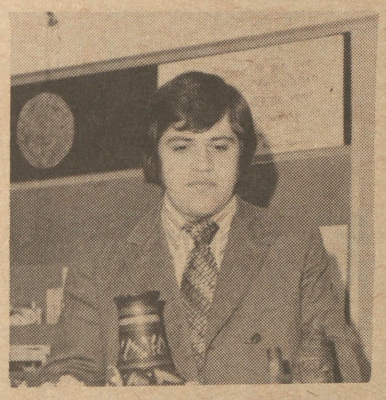
TRYING TO GET OVER TRUDY in one of her happy moods.

"I don't believe you've gotta stick up nobody to get over," she said. "If you show somebody a nice time, they are gonna come back to you, and bring more. But if you stick them up and take their money, they're not gonna come back. They're not that crazy. Some have came back, but to do something to the person."

Asked about what kind of people she meets, she said that some were rather strange, and some were mean, but most were nice, "and the ones that be nice, you be nice to them."

Some of the girls seem to feel they are enemies of the rest of society, or the Establishment, and resent the people who disapprove of them. Says Trudy, "While I'm out here, I try to give the people who don't appreciate it, my respect. And my mother, who I give the most respect. When I'm out here in the streets, it's not what she expects of me, but this is what I want to do. To try a little bit of everything, so I'll try this for a while. And then I'm gonna try the plant for a while, and hope to survive in the plant. Out here you really can't survive, you don't know what you're doing."

We asked Trudy, just out of curiosity, what she thought of the Valley Star. She said, "I like it. I like it very much. That's why I like to come down and wave to everybody, because I really like the Valley Star."



MR. MARTINEZ

Chicano Week at Ricker Junior High

Chicano is a modern term meaning Mexican American. The word Chicano has connotations of cultural pride and political awareness now developing among politically active Mexican Americans. The term Chicano has been used since the early 1900's. It is an abbreviation of the word Mexicano.

This is the first Chicano Awareness week at Ricker Junior High in Buena Vista. The theme was to make students aware of Mexican culture, not only past history but present, too. The Chicanos of Ricker have succeeded with an exhibit by David Torrez on the culture. Students have contributed with art drawings of famous statesmen, and revolutionists of Mexico. Costumes, crafts, artifacts were displayed from all Latin origins. Films were shown to all history and social studies classes to enlighten the students about Mexican heritage and to educate all students for a better self-awareness of each other.

Mr. Martinez, an industrial arts teacher at Ricker, was coordinator of all activities during Chicano Week. Ricker Junior High has proudly accepted the Chicano Awareness Week to acquire knowledge and understanding of its race. May others follow!

"Rap, Pool and Brew - - Mr. B's is the Place"

Mr. B's is a popular gathering place at Fifteenth and Remington in Saginaw. Although the establishment doesn't have a band or live entertainment it is not lacking in atmosphere. You may find your favorite latest hit on the music box.

There is no special night to go to Mr. B's, friends meet there at varying times to have their favorite drink and rap, play pool and check out who else made it to the set.

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Sharing a Birthday

The family of Robert M. Woods and his nephew Ronnie Frierson had talked for years about throwing a surprise party for the two on the November 24 birthday they share. And this year, Mrs. Elizabeth Woods, mother of Mr. Woods and grandmother of Mr. Frierson, made sure it really happened.

Mr. Woods, part-owner of the House of Style and recently elected to the Buena Vista Board of Supervisors, and Mr. Frierson, a 20 year old Delta student, were surprised Saturday evening, November 25, at Mr. Woods' home at 3266 Cherry Street by a happy group of relatives and friends.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" DEAR, SAYS MRS. R. WOODS

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY - Happy birthday son, Mrs. Elizabeth Woods.

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LEARNING ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE - Walter Wood and Joe Davis.

Learning More About Black People

Bethpage, N.Y., executives in a major corporation here are learning more about how and why Blacks think and act the way they do.

Walter C. Wood, Jr. (right), vice president of Grumman Data Systems Corporation says, "By realizing more about the black experience over the past 300 years, we can improve the day-to-day working relationships between management and Black employees.

Joseph A. Davis (left), a consultant to industry on minority problems provided Grumman with the five-day training seminars. To date, Davis has conducted sessions for three groups of Data Systems executives.

He is shown here at Grumman's Long Island headquarters where the Grumman executive explained the company's new space age computer "juke box."

Davis developed his "white awareness training seminars" when he discovered general misunderstanding about Blacks for whom he had found white collar jobs in a wide number of corporations.

Grumman Data Systems Corporation which runs one of the largest computer centers on the East Coast, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Grumman Corporation.

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM HOWARD OATES

On Saturday afternoon, 18 of November, Miss Serita Inez Hope and Mr. Williams Howard Oates were married at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Theodore LaMarre of Detroit Visitation Church officiating. Miss Hope is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William Hope, Jr., 1010 Owen, and the groom's parents are Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Oates, 1418 Federal.

Mrs. Debra Harness, wearing a gold gown, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Norman Dargin, sister of the groom, Miss Carolyn Joseph, and Misses Ranee and Beverly Hope, sisters of the bride. Each wore a blue gown and carried a single rose. Lavetta Hope and Elizabeth Atkin were flower girls.

Acting as best man was Lloyd Gipson. Groomsmen were Louis Oates and Jesse Oates, brothers of the groom, Allan VanHook, Henry Porterfield, Jr. and Norman Dargin. Ring bearer was James Thompson.

The couple greeted 200 guests at a reception at the Townhouse Village Community Room. Following a honeymoon in northern Michigan, they will live in Saginaw.

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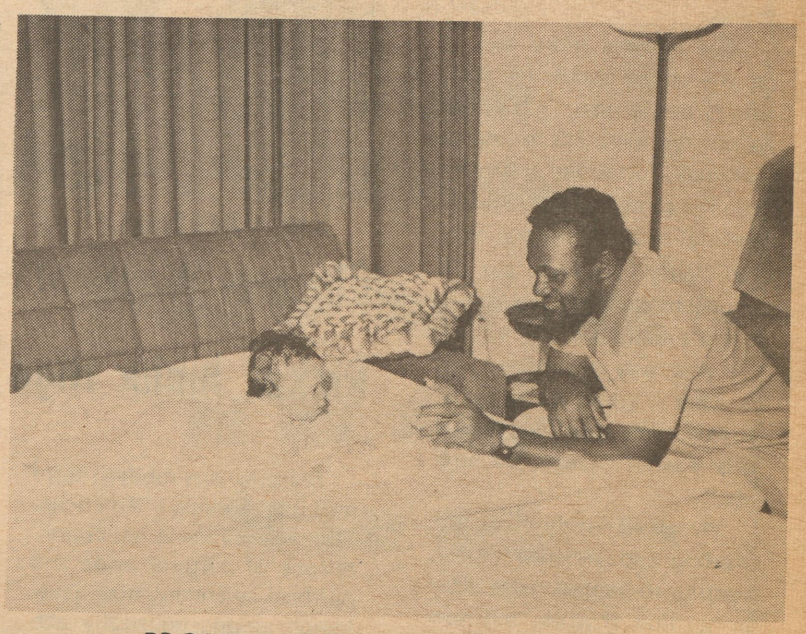

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